

ATLAS
STRANGE STORIES OF SUSPENSE

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STRANGE STORIES OF SUSPENSE

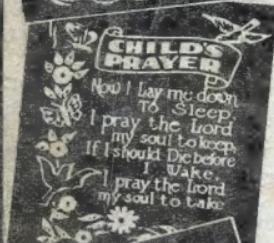
HOW COULD HE HAVE KNOWN THAT
“TACHZILLO THE
TERRIBLE”
WAS WAITING FOR
HIM??!

DANGER
SWAMPS



**DO YOU
WANT SPENDING MONEY?**

*Sell these popular Patriotic
and Religious Mottoes*



WRITE
FOR COMPLETE
DETAILS
TO →

SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP \$2.50

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP \$3.00

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP \$4.00

REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.



STEPHENS CREDIT SALES

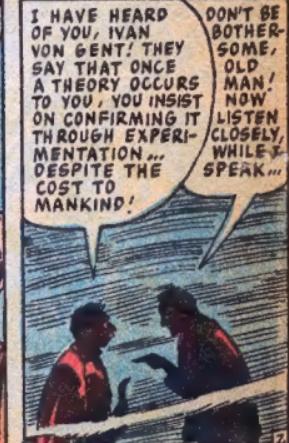
Dept. MN P. O. Box 1004

Nashville, Tennessee

THE VAGUE SHAPE RISING SLOWLY FROM THE LAKE, CASTS AN ENORMOUS SHADOW! BUT IS IT A REAL SHADOW, OR RATHER THE DARKNESS OF A MAN'S DREAM CONJURED UP BY MADNESS AND A CHANCE CONFIGURATION OF EARLY MORNING MIST...?

THE ONE WHO WATCHES!

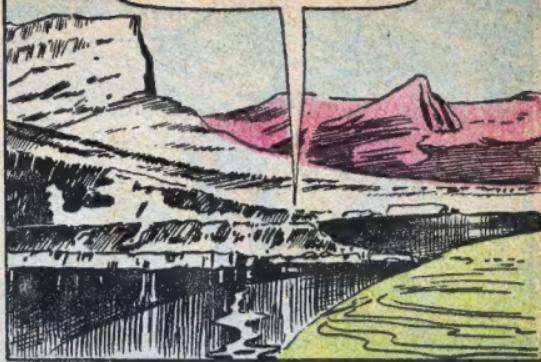




LET US ASSUME YOU DO SEE THE MONSTER! IF SO... THERE MUST BE A REASON FOR YOU BEING THE ONLY ONE! WELL, MY THEORY IS THAT IN EVERYBODY ELSE'S EYES, THERE IS AN ELEMENT THAT WORKS AS CERTAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC LENSES DO WHEN THEY CANCEL OUT CERTAIN COLORS...



ONLY, IN THE HUMAN EYE, THAT ELEMENT CANCELS OUT VISUAL IMPRESSIONS OF MONSTERS! YOU LACK THE ELEMENT... THEREFORE YOU SEE THE MONSTER! NOW STAND IN THE LIGHT... I WANT TO EXAMINE YOUR EYES!



HMM... MOST INTERESTING...



THESE SAMPLES OF YOUR TEARS ARE ALL I NEED! THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE ME, OLD MAN, BE PREPARED FOR A GREAT SURPRISE!



FOR THREE DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS, THE BRILLIANT SCIENTIST WORKS AT HIS DESK IN A HOTEL ROOM...

I HAVE ISOLATED THE ELEMENT THAT PREVENTS MEN FROM SEEING MONSTERS! NOW, THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO COUNTERACT THAT ELEMENT!



AT THE DAWN OF THE FIFTH DAY...

IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT, THE COUNTER-AGENT IS ENTERING MY EYES THIS VERY MOMENT!



SO... YOU HAVE COME BACK! YES, OLD MAN... AND THE NEXT TIME THE MONSTER RISES, BE PREPARED FOR THE SURPRISE!



BRRR... HOW MUCH LONGER DO WE HAVE TO WAIT? I AM CHILLED... MY BONES ache WITH DAMPNESS!

MY BONES HAVE BEEN ACHING WITH THE DAMP FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER!
SHHHH... DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING?



NOW THE YOUNG SCIENTIST CUPS HIS HAND TO HIS MOUTH, AND HIS STRONG VOICE SHATTERS THE DAWN'S STILLNESS...

THE MONSTER IS HERE AGAIN...
I SEE HIM! I SEE HIM!



AND BEFORE LONG...

HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY TOO, IVAN VON GENT?

BUT THE MONSTER WAS THERE! YOU MUST BELIEVE ME! I SAW IT! BUT AS SOON AS I CRIED OUT... IT SUBMERGED!



HMPH... WORLD-FAMOUS SCIENTIST HE CALLED HIMSELF! BUT FROM NOW ON, HE'LL BE CALLED A CRACKPOT!

YOU CANNOT TELL THEM OF YOUR BRILLIANT THEORY, IVAN VON GENT! THE

SAME FORCE THAT COMPELLED YOU TO COME BACK TO THE LAKE HAS CLOUDED YOUR MIND FOREVER!

AND... NOW... FAREWELL!

Y-YOU ARE LEAVING ME HERE... ALONE... TO WATCH FOR THE MONSTER?



WHY NOT? YOU CAN SEE HIM NOW... YOU CAN CRY OUT, SO HE WILL BE SURE TO SUBMERGE! THAT WAS MY TASK FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER... BUT NOW

...YOU ARE THE ONE WHO WATCHES!

THE END

*draw
me →*

YOU MAY WIN A
\$375.00 SCHOLARSHIP
IN PROFESSIONAL ART

DRAW THIS GIRL'S HEAD 5 inches high.
Use pencil. All drawings for December
1956 contest must be received by
December 31. None returned. Winner
notified. Amateurs only. Our students
not eligible. Mail your drawing today!



PRIZE: A complete art course—free training for a career in advertising art, illustrating or cartooning—plus a drawing outfit and valuable art textbooks! You're coached by professional artists on the staff of world's largest home study art school. Many of its graduates are top artists today. Trained artists in demand. Try for this free art course!

USE 1 COUPON—THEN PASS THIS PAGE ON TO A FRIEND

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500 South 4th Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota
Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ AGE _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ Zone _____ County _____
State _____ Occupation _____

3 ART INSTRUCTION, INC. • STUDIO 11946
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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ AGE _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ Zone _____ County _____
State _____ Occupation _____

THE LAW KNEW RIGHT WHERE TO FIND SWINDLER MAC GRANT, BUT THEY IGNORED HIM AND ARRESTED A NEARBY STRANGER! AND YET, MAC WAS ASTONISHED TO LEARN, THE POLICE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING WHEN THEY PUT HANDCUFFS ON THE MAN WITH...

The BLACK BEARD!



IT WAS TOO LATE! DETECTIVES ED MORGAN AND TIM HALEY HAD SHADOWED THE SWINDLER'S GIRL FRIEND FROM THE MOMENT SHE HAILED A CAB IN FRONT OF HER HOME...

WHAT ABOUT IT, TIM? YOU THINK SHE KNOWS WE'RE FOLLOWING HER?

WE'LL SOON FIND OUT! IF MAC GRANT ISN'T IN THERE THEN THIS IS JUST A WILD GOOSE CHASE!



MAC SAW LOIS DEANE COME OUT OF THE NIGHT! HE WAS SURE SHE HAD SEEN HIM, BUT WHEN A STRANGE MAN, WITH A BLACK BEARD BECKONED TO HER, SHE SMILED AT HIM...

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HER? SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT GUY!



HE SOON UNDERSTOOD! THE POLICE HAD TRAILED LOIS AND SHE HAD TRICKED THEM...



THERE'S A SMART GIRL FOR YOU! INSTEAD OF COMING OVER TO ME, SHE WENT TO OLD BLACK BEARD WHEN HE FLIRTED WITH HER! THOSE PLAIN-CLOTHESMEN GOT THE WRONG MAN! SERVES THE OLD GOAT RIGHT! I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT LOIS... AFTER ALL, SHE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!

WE'LL HAVE TO HOLD YOU AS A MATERIAL WITNESS, MISS DEANE!

I'D BETTER GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE THE POLICE FIND OUT THEIR MISTAKE AND COME BACK FOR ME!

MAC GRANT HURRIED OUT TO HIS OLD PLANE WHICH HE HAD BELIEVED READY FOR HIS FLIGHT FROM JUSTICE...

THE CRATE WON'T START UP! MAYBE I CAN FIND ONE THAT'LL RUN!



I COULD FLY THIS JET JOB... PROVIDED IT'S LOADED WITH FUEL!

THERE WAS PLENTY OF FUEL, AND MAC DID TAKE OFF IN THE SHIP...



THAT FOOL... HE'LL BE KILLED! THAT PLANE HAS NEVER BEEN FLOWN BEFORE! NOBODY HAS THE LEAST IDEA HOW FAST IT CAN GO!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL NEVER GET TO TAKE IT UP ON ITS FIRST TEST FLIGHT, CHARLIE!





MAC GRANT STRUGGLED TO CONTROL THE STRANGE SHIP. HE WAS AWARE THAT ITS SPEED WAS FAR EXCEEDING EVEN THE TOP SPEED SHOWN ON THE INDICATOR...



HE WAS HELPLESS UNTIL TWO HOURS LATER, THE FANTASTIC SHIP RAN OUT OF FUEL! HE GLIDED INTO A FIELD...



MAC LANDED SAFELY AND HASTILY QUIT THE SHIP.

MAYBE THEY'VE LET LOIS GO BY THIS TIME! PERHAPS SHE'S WAITING FOR ME IN THAT CAFE.. BUT THOSE DETECTIVES MAY BE THERE, WAITING, TOO! I'D BETTER TRY TO FIND SOME SORT OF A DISGUISE!



MAC FOUND HIS EMERGENCY DISGUISE AT THE AIRPORT TERMINAL'S SUNDRY STORE! HE COMPLETED THIS DISGUISE BY MAKING OFF WITH A CUSTOMER'S HAT AND COAT, LEAVING HIS LEATHER JACKET ON THE HOOK IN THEIR PLACE.



IN A FEW MINUTES, LOIS DEANE CAME IN, HESITATED AS THE DISGUISED CON MAN BECKONED AND CALLED HER BY NAME...



THAT WAS A REAL SMART TRICK YOU PULLED ON THOSE DETECTIVES, LOIS! HOW LONG DID IT TAKE THEM TO FIND OUT THEY'D MADE A MISTAKE?

DETECTIVES? MAC, WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



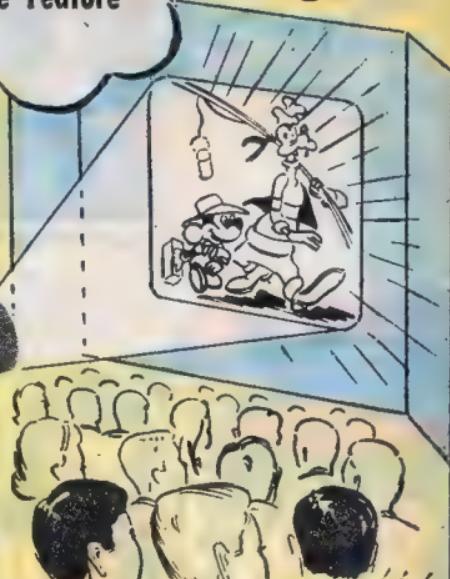
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I enclose payment plus 36c shipping charges.

Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus C.O.D. fee and shipping charges.

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ADDRESS _____

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- MICKEY MOUSE SOUND PROJECTOR
- YOUR OWN THEATRE
- THRILLING DOUBLE FEATURE TALKING FILMS

NEVER MIND...I'LL DISCUSS THAT WITH YOU LATER! RIGHT NOW, WE'D BETTER GET OUT 'TOO LATE...' THEY'RE BACK AGAIN'

SIT RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, GRANT! WE THOUGHT WE'D FIND YOU IF WE FOLLOWED MISS DEANE!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, MISTER 'YOU'RE APPARENTLY MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE!'



COME ON, GRANT! THAT DISGUISE ISN'T FOOLING ANYBODY!

WHAT'S THE USE, MAC...YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOUR MEDICINE!



MAC GRANT KNEW LOIS WAS RIGHT! HE WENT ALONG QUIETLY! GLANCING OVER TO THE CORNER OF THE ROOM, HE SAW SOMEONE STARING AT HIM ...

IT...(GASP) IT'S ME!



MAC GLANCED AT THE CLOCK OVER THE DOORWAY.

TEN O'CLOCK! BUT IT WAS TEN O'CLOCK TWO HOURS AGO! OH!



THE SWEAT FELT COLD UNDER THE FALSE BLACK BEARD MAC GRANT WORE... THE BLACK BEARD HE HAD REMOVED FROM A HALLOWEEN MASK HE'D BOUGHT AT THE AIRPORT TERMINAL SUNDRY STORE...

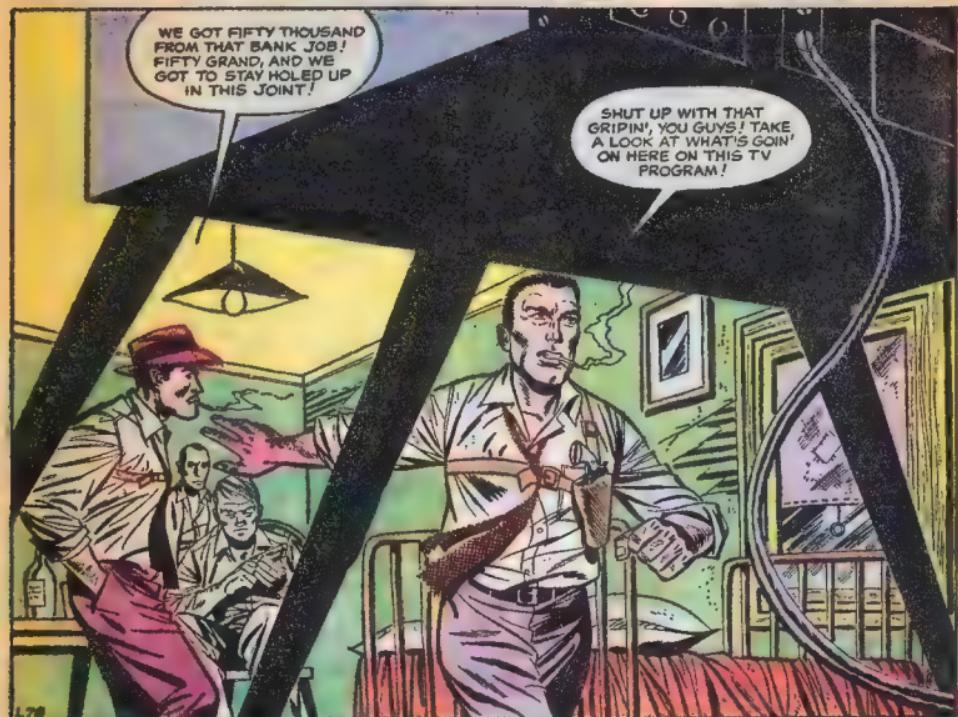
IT WAS THAT JET PLANE I FLEW IN! IT FLEW SO FAST AGAINST TIME THAT IT CARRIED ME BACK TWO HOURS! THAT'S HOW I WAS ABLE TO WITNESS MY OWN ARREST BEFORE, WITHOUT KNOWING IT WAS ME!



THE END

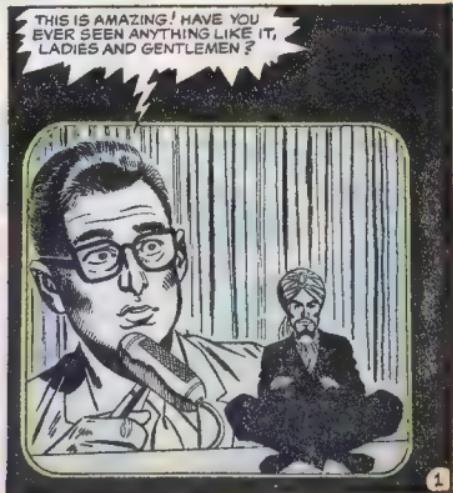
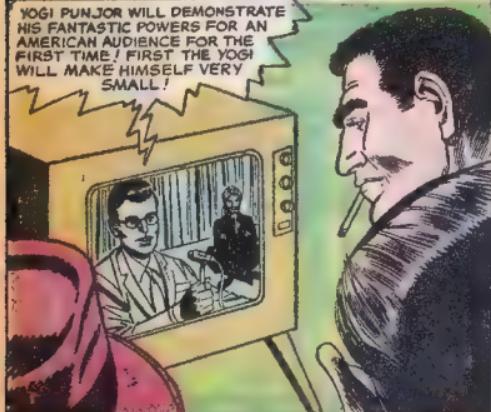
OUT OF THE MYSTERIOUS EAST CAME THE YOGI PUNJOR, AND A DESPERATE MOB SAW AN ESCAPE FROM THE POLICE DRAGNET WITH THE STRANGE MAN'S HELP! BUT THE YOGI HAD HIDDEN POWERS THAT HIS EVIL CAPTORS HAD NOT COUNTED ON!

WHEN THE YOGI SPEAKS!



MITCH NORTON AND HIS MOB WERE TRAPPED FROM THE MOMENT THEY STUCK UP THE BANK! THE GUARD RECOGNIZED THE NOTORIOUS MOBSTERS AT ONCE! ALL EXITS FROM THE CITY WERE CUT OFF...

YOGI PUNJOR WILL DEMONSTRATE HIS FANTASTIC POWERS FOR AN AMERICAN AUDIENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME! FIRST THE YOGI WILL MAKE HIMSELF VERY SMALL!



NEXT, THE MYSTERIOUS PUNJOR BECAME A COLOSSUS!



MOB LEADER MITCH NORTON AND HIS GUNMAN, BURT KANE, DROVE TO THE TV STATION, SAW THE YOGI COME OUT AND FOLLOWED HIM TO HIS HOTEL...



SO YOU THREATEN ME WITH GUN! IF PUNJOR HELP YOU, WHAT WILL BE REWARD?

WE'LL PAY YOU FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS!

WE'LL GIVE THE FIFTY G\$, THEN TAKE IT BACK WHEN WE'RE FINISHED WITH HIM!

FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IS MUCH MONEY! FOR THAT MUCH, I DO AS YOU ASK!



I'D NEVER BELIEVE THIS, IF I HADN'T SEEN IT WITH MY OWN EYES! YOGI PUNJOR HAS MADE HIMSELF SO LIGHT, HE FLOATS



LOOK AT THAT! HE'S FLOATING RIGHT OUT TO THE AUDIENCE! NOW HE'S SITTING WITH THEM!



BIG DEAL! MAYBE YOU CAN FIGURE SOME WAY TO FLOAT US ACROSS THE BORDER... INTO CANADA!

BURT, IF YOU USED YOUR HEAD INSTEAD OF YOUR MOUTH, YOU'D BE A LOT BETTER OFF. YOU AND I ARE GOING TO THAT TV STATION. FOLLOW THAT YOGI. BRING HIM BACK HERE AND GET HIM TO TEACH US THOSE TRICKS! THAT'S HOW WE'RE GOIN' TO LAM OUT OF HERE... WITH YOGA!



THE TWO MOBSTER ACCOMPANIED THE YOGI DOWN A REAR STAIRWAY OF THE HOTEL, OUT THE BACK EXIT, WHERE THE CAR WAS PARKED! THEY DROVE TO THEIR HIDE-OUT HID THE CAR IN A BACK-ALLEY GARAGE.

HERE'S THE FIFTY THOUSAND I PROMISED YOU! NOW, PUNJOR, HOW ABOUT IT... GET BUSY!

WE BEGIN AT ONCE!



YOGI PJNJOR
WLL TEACH YOU!
EACH WLL LEARN
DIFFERENT
POWER OF
YOGA!

SMART IDEA! WE
DON'T HAVE TIME
TO LEARN ALL
THE TRICKS!

WITHIN A FEW DAYS, THE MOBTERS
WERE EACH ABLE TO PERFORM A FEAT
OF YOGA...

NOW YOU MUST DO MORE
THAN THINK! YOU MUST
KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!
WHEN YOGI NEXT SPEAKS,
YOU WILL BE LIGHT AS
FEATHER! YOU WILL
RISE, YOU WILL FLOAT!

WILL YOU
LOOK AT
BLRT! HE
COULD
HCK IN A
SLCTCASE

YOU A LL RSE AS
A FEATHER IN THE
W ND!

M TCH! (GASP!)
HE'S FLOATIN'!!



SATISFIED THAT THEY WERE READY THE NORTON GANG QUIT THEIR HIDE-OUT A HALF-HOUR BEFORE DAWN, A WEEK AFTER THE YOGI TAUGHT THEM THE STRANGE POWERS...



DAWN BROKE A FEW MINUTES BEFORE
THE MOB RACED TOWARD A ROAD-BLOCK
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY.

THIS IS IT, MITCH!
WHAT DO WE DO?
WE STOP, STUPID!
AND WE GET OUT!
THEN WE GIVE THE
LAW A DEMONSTRATION
OF YOGA THAT LL
MAKE THE REYES
POP OUT!



THE POLICE OFFICERS WERE UNEASY
AS THE MOBTERS STEPPED OUT ONTO
THE HIGHWAY SHOWING NO SIGN OF
FEAR! BUT THE POL CE WERE UNPREP-
ARED FOR WHAT HAPPENED NEXT...



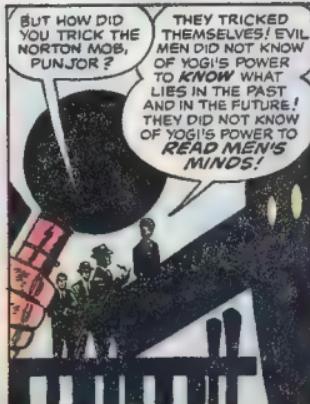
AS MITCH ROSE HIGHER INTO THE SKY, BURT KANE SHRIVELLED SO THAT HE WAS ABLE TO RUN BENEATH THE MOB'S CAR! CHUCK WALLACE GREW SO BIG AND HEAVY, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO MOVE HIM, WHILE DAVE HILL SIMPLY TRANSPORTED HIMSELF TOWARD A DISTANT MOUNTAINTOP, AND MOBSTER HARRY BOYD SIMPLY VANISHED INTO THIN AIR...



THE CAPTAIN STAGGERED BACK, GASPING, AS YOGI PUNJOR ROSE FROM THE FLOOR AND FLOATED TOWARD THE STREET...



THE YOGI'S ASTOUNDING POWERS MADE HEADLINES! THE \$50,000 HAD BEEN RETURNED TO THE BANK, AND NEXT DAY, AS PUNJOR WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR HOME...



AREN'T YOU GOING TO HELP THE POLICE CAPTURE THE NORTON GANG... HELP PUNISH THEM?



THE END

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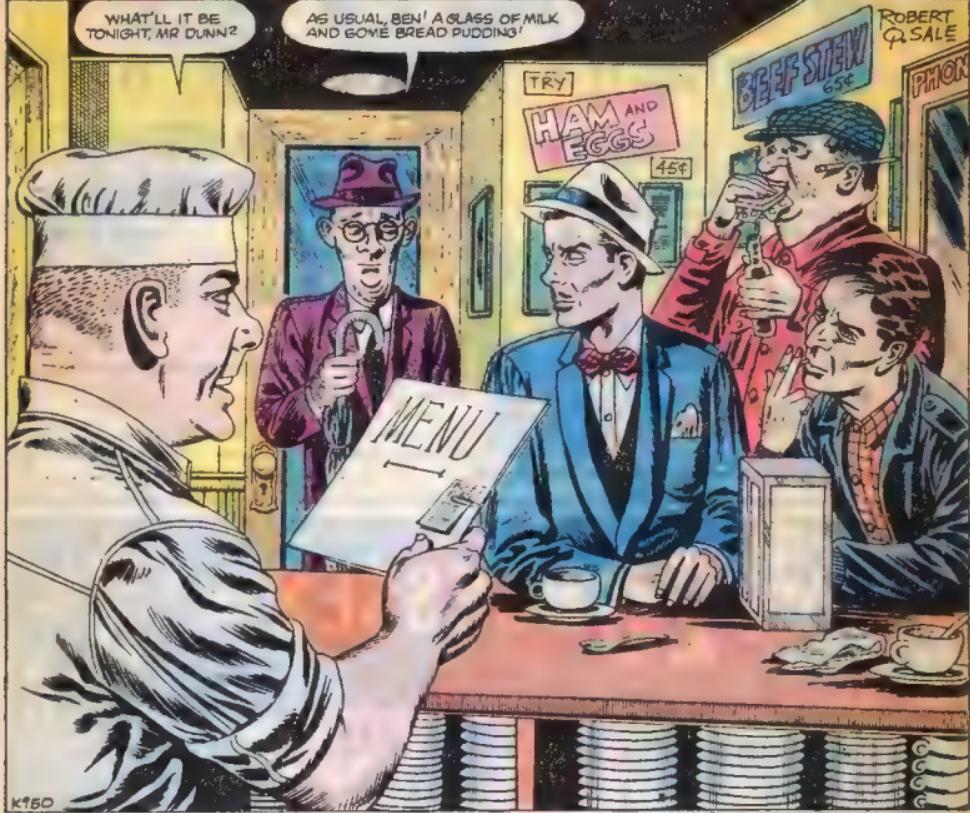
Enclosed find \$1.00 Deposit. I will pay postmen COD
balance PLUS postage.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____

ITEM	SIZE	PRICE

THE MEER, MEEK, LITTLE MAN YOU SEE BELOW IS HENRY DUNN, BOOKKEEPER FOR A DRYGOODS STORE! HENRY NEVER MARRIED, NEVER EVEN HAD A GIRL OR A FRIEND...HE IS THE ESSENCE OF A MAN OF NO CONSEQUENCE...A NOBODY! YET MEER, MEER, LITTLE HENRY DID BECOME...

the MOST DANGEROUS MAN in the WORLD!



K950

THAT LITTLE GUY FASCINATES ME! HE'S SUCH A NOTHING! HOW CAN A MAN GET TO BE HIS AGE AND BE SUCH A ZERO?



HE COMES IN HERE EVERY NIGHT AND GIVES THE SAME ORDER! IF THE DOOR DIDN'T SLAM WHEN HE COMES IN, I WOULDN'T EVEN NOTICE HE WAS HERE...THAT'S THE KIND OF GUY HE IS!

MR. BERRING, YOU'RE A NEWSPAPERMAN! WHAT'S THE ANSWER TO A GUY LIKE HIM?



HENRY HEARD THE WHISPERS... ALL HIS LIFE
HE HAD HEARD THOSE WHISPERS! AND THE
DESPERATION THAT HAD BEEN GROWING IN
HIM FOR SO LONG, BECAME A BURNING INSIDE
THAT THREATENED TO CONSUME HIM!

A NOBODY... HENRY DUNN, NOBODY,
NOTHING! BUT ALL MY LIFE I'VE DREAMED
OF BEING BIG, NOTICED! DOING SOMETHING
LIKE THAT REPORTER SAID, TO MAKE
ME FAMOUS!

A PAIN SHOT THROUGH HENRY'S SKULL! BUT
THE MILD, BLAND FACE SHOWED NOTHING...

I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING...
ANYTHING! BUT IT'S GOT TO BE BIG!
THE YEARS ARE PASSING, SOON I'LL BE
DEAD AND NO ONE WILL KNOW OR
CARE THAT I EVER LIVED!

MAYBE SOME
NOBODIES DO
SOMETHING
THAT MAKES
THEM FAMOUS?
BUT NOT THIS
GUY. HE JUST
DON'T HAVE
IT IN HIM!

SOMETHING BIG... MAKE
ME NOTICED, MAKE
PEOPLE AFRAID OF ME...
THAT WILL MAKE THEM
REMEMBER ME! WAIT.
I'VE GOT IT... MAKE
THEM NOTICE ME...
JUST THESE FEW
PEOPLE, IF ONLY FOR
A LITTLE WHILE...



I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID AND YOU'RE WRONG!
I LOOK LIKE A NOBODY, BUT I POSSESS A HIDDEN
POWER THAT NO OTHER MAN EVER POSSESSED!

HUH?



I SAID I POSSESS A POWER! I CAN
PREDICT DEATH! I CAN SEE DEATH
HOVERING OVER SOMEONE WHEN
THEIR TIME HAS COME!

THIS GUY IS CRAZY!
DON'T PAY ANY
ATTENTION TO
HIM AND HE'LL
GO AWAY!



FOR THE MOMENT, HE HAD BEEN THE FOCUS OF ATTRACTION! HE
FELT THAT MOMENT SLIPPING BY AND DESPERATELY HE STRUGGED
TO HOLD ON TO IT!



LOOK, MR DUNN, WHY DON'T
YOU SIT DOWN AND EAT YOUR
SUPPER? YOU SHOULDN'T SAY
THINGS LIKE THAT.

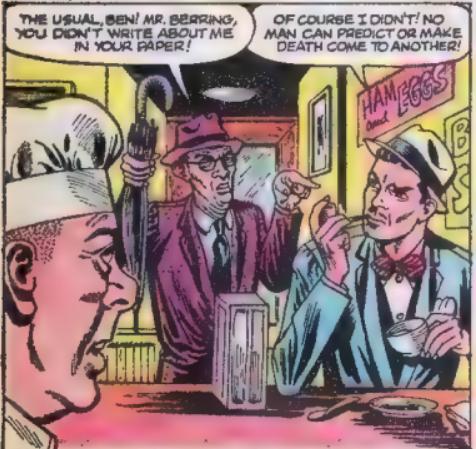
IF HE WOULD ONLY DIE,
GET KILLED SOMEHOW! OH,
HOW I WISH HE WOULD
DIE. DIE... DIE!





SUDDENLY, THEY TURNED AND LOOKED AT HENRY!

I WISHED HIM TO DIE AND HE DID! I CAN MAKE A MAN TO DEATH...MAKE HIM DIE! MR. BERRING, WRITE ABOUT ME IN YOUR NEWSPAPER! TELL THE WORLD ABOUT THE MAN WHO CAN MAKE DEATH COME. **THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN THE WORLD!**



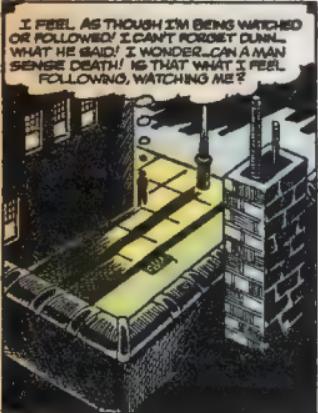
COINCIDENCE DOESN'T HAPPEN IN PAIRS, DUNN! YOU'LL GET NO PUBLICITY FROM ME TO MAKE YOU NOTICED! WELL, I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE OFFICE...

PAUL BERRING WENT BACK TO HIS NEWSPAPER OFFICE TO WRITE SOME COPY. IT WAS DARK WHEN HE LEFT HIS OFFICE LATE THAT NIGHT AND HE COULDN'T FIND A TAXI...



AS HE NEARED HIS APARTMENT HOUSE, AN EERIE FEELING CAME OVER HIM...

HE WALKED FASTER! HE CULPED AS HE PASSED AN ALLEY...AND THEN A TERRIFYING SHADOW LOOKED...



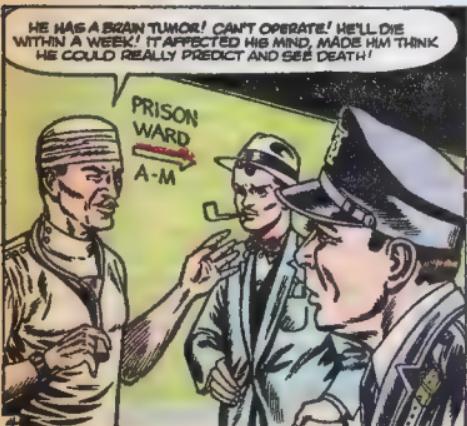
MY WISH WILL COME TRUE! I AM THE INSTRUMENT OF DEATH! DIE...DIE!

DUNN!



TWO HOURS LATER, AT THE STATE PRISON HOSPITAL!

HE HAS A BRAIN TUMOR! CAN'T OPERATE! HE'LL DIE WITHIN A WEEK! IT AFFECTED HIS MIND, MADE HIM THINK HE COULD REALLY PREDICT AND SEE DEATH!



HENRY DUNN WAS NO LONGER A NOBODY! HIS WISH HAD COME TRUE! HIS NAME WAS IN EVERY NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTRY! AND SOON HENRY, AS HE PREDICTED HE COULD, WOULD SEE DEATH!



The Secret of the Saucers

FRANK TURNER knocked on the door of Mr. Gillespie's office and hearing "come in" turned the knob and entered. It was a hot June day and Frank breathed a deep sigh of contentment as he walked into the air-conditioned office.

"You wanted me, boss?" Frank asked.

"Yes, Frank. The Mayor's office just phoned. The mayor has something to say to the press this afternoon at 2:00. See what it's all about."

"I'll be there," Frank answered. "By the way, did you see those reports about the town of Groton, out West?"

"Yes, I heard about it. Just rumors."

"I don't know. There's something funny about people suddenly buying quantities of soap . . . the kind that takes out deep-down dirt."

"Oh, forget it. Probably some mining town nearby ran out of it."

"Maybe, but still . . ." Frank decided to drop the subject, and left the editor's office.

Frank did forget about the report, until about a week later a similar one came in from Akton, a small town not too far from Groton, about unusually large purchases of frozen green vegetables. The wire services sent reporters to Akton, but they could find no explanation. And soon, like the reports from Groton, these also died down.



About two weeks later, a steady stream of similar reports began to flow in from other towns in that same vicinity, but

again due to a lack of any reasonable explanation, people began to toss off discussions with a mere, "It's probably some industry gimmick to stir the public into buying their products."

Frank Turner wasn't satisfied. His vacation was coming up in about two weeks, and he changed his plans for a fishing trip and quietly made other plans to visit the area in question. He selected a small resort town on Lake Winston, as headquarters.

Frank checked in at a small hotel. He questioned the hotel manager and then some of the shopkeepers in town. "Oh, yeah," one man said. "A few folks did happen in and buy quite a bit of soap . . . folks I never seen before . . . but this is a popular town in the Summer . . . there are always new faces around . . . figured they got some new-fangled sport or somethin' that gets 'em kinda dirty."

The next day Frank drove to Groton. He walked around a bit, then picked the most prosperous general store in town and went in.

"Hello there," he started. "Nice store you've got here. Nice town, too."

"Thanks, mister. Ain't seen you before. You new here?"

"I'm just driving through and thought I'd pick up a few things I need."

Frank asked for a few things . . . lastly for soap, the kind that was causing the commotion.

"Tell me, son, what do you do with the stuff? I never seen so much demand for somethin' so ordinary."

"I plan to do a lot of fishing and camping out. I like to have some along," answered Frank.

"All this buying of soap and frozen greens is making the folks who live here buy more'n they need, jest in case there's a shortage."

"You mean the people who started this buying are *not* people who live in town?"

"Never said they was, son. Nope, I ain't never seen them before. Kind of peculiar, too. Keep to themselves. Don't know where they live."

"Couldn't they be just summer visitors?"

"Nope. We never had so many new summer folks at once. Usually folks come back year after year and we get to know 'em. I think these are foreigners. They talk peculiar . . . right words, but they talk through their noses . . . all of 'em."

The story Frank got from people in Akton was much the same. Strangers started the buying . . . no one anyone knew . . . didn't live in town. He returned to Lake Winston to do some thinking.

Early the next day, Frank started back to Groton. He drove around town and then took several roads, one by one, leading out of town. He drove for several hours, seeing nothing but peaceful countryside. He stopped the car at a quiet spot

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY

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100

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SOLDIERS & TRAIN SETS.

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SOLDIERS • TANKS • PLANES • SHIPS
HI-IMPACT PLASTIC • UP TO 4½" HIGH
100 Pieces

\$1.00



SAVE! ALL 3 ITEMS only 275 postpaid

GET YOURS! MAIL COUPON TODAY

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162 FOURTH AVE., MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.

Please Check Items Desired

<input type="checkbox"/> 100 FLAGS.....\$1	<input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOBILES ..\$1
<input type="checkbox"/> ARMED FORCES..\$1	<input type="checkbox"/> ALL 3 ITEMS ..\$2.75

NAME.....CITY.....

ADDRESS.....STATE.....

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**REVERSIBLE...
GUARANTEED...
WEAR TWICE AS LONG**

Beautiful covers to match the styling in today's cars. Have contrasting colors for top of seats and COWHIDE or LEOPARD designs imprinted on HEAVY GAUGE PLASTIC. Can be used on either side for EXTRA Beauty, EXTRA wear, EXTRA Value. Just like getting 2 sets of covers for \$2.98.



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- BARGAIN PRICED. Only \$2.98 for either seat, split or solid front—only \$5.00 for both seats. Specify year, make and model when ordering. Send name, address and check, cash or money order. Add 25¢ additional for P.P. and handling. On C.O.D. orders you pay postman plus charges.

MARDO SALES CORP., Dept. DS-877
480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

Please send me seat covers I have marked. I can try for 10 days and return for refund of purchase price if I am not satisfied.

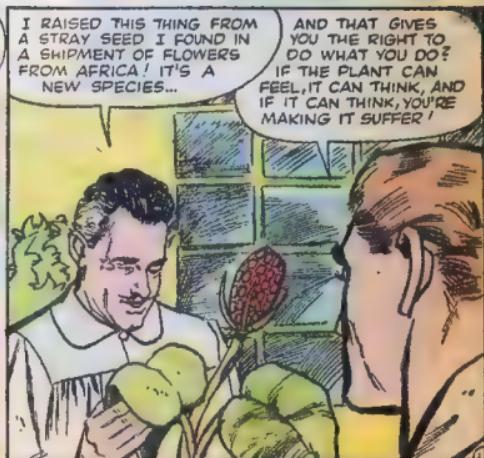
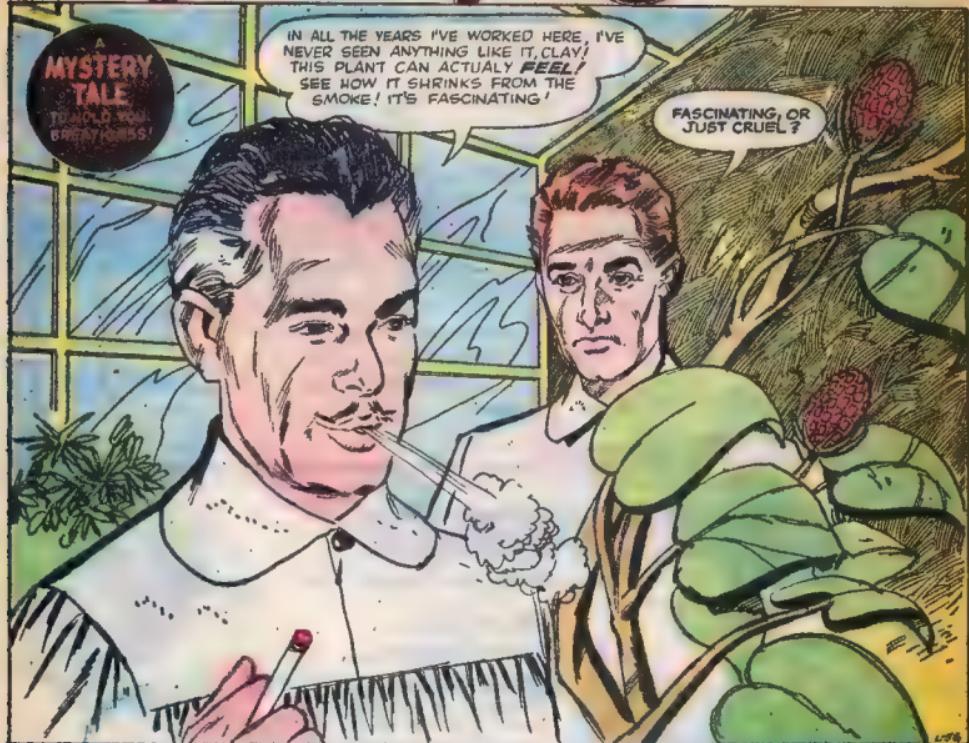
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I enclose payment Send C.O.D. Add 25¢ pp and Handling

Name.....Address.....City.....Zone.....State.....

FOR ALL THEIR KNOWLEDGE MEN REALLY KNOW SO LITTLE! TAKE MARK ADAMS! TO THIS DAY HE CANNOT SAY IF IT WAS BY ACCIDENT OR DESIGN THAT HE WAS PUNISHED BY THE PLANT HE GREW FROM...

the Strange Seed!



MARK, LET IT ALONE!
DON'T PERFORM ANY
MORE EXPERIMENTS
ON IT! WHO KNOWS
WHAT IT MIGHT
LEAD TO?

IT WILL LEAD TO
NOTHING!
YOU ARE
A FOOL!

PLANTS DON'T
THINK! AND EVEN
IF THIS ONE DOES,
WHAT OF IT? GO ON,
GET OUT! IT'S
QUITTING TIME
ANYWAY!

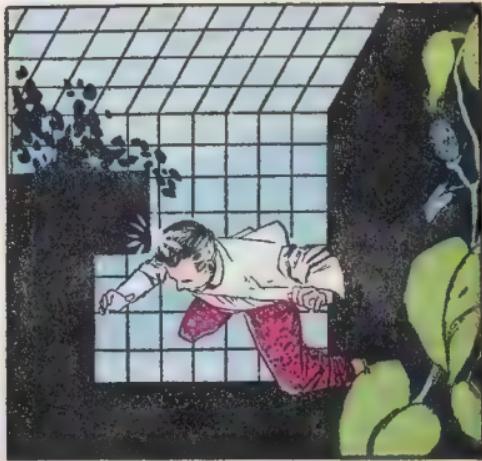
WHY, THIS IS MARVELOUS!
IT ACTUALLY PULLS ITSELF
AWAY FROM THE HEAT!

IF MARK ADAMS HAD NOT BEEN
VICIOUS, IT MIGHT NEVER HAVE
HAPPENED! BUT MARK ADAMS
WAS WHAT HE WAS! HE WENT
ON WITH HIS EXPERIMENTS...

ACID... SUPPOSE I WAS TO
PUT A DROP OF ACID ON
ONE OF ITS LEAVES?
WHAT WOULD IT DO?
HOW WOULD IT
REACT?



MARK ADAMS WENT ON WITH HIS EXPERIMENT,
AND DANGER WAS THE FARDEST THING FROM
HIS MIND, UNTIL HE TURNED, AND SOMETHING
CAUGHT AT HIS HEELS...



AFTERWARD, THERE WAS ONLY BROODING SILENCE...
BUT ADAMS KNEW NOTHING OF THAT... UNTIL NEXT
MORNING...

CLAY! I TRIPPED OVER SOMETHING!
I MUST HAVE FALLEN AND HIT
MY HEAD! AND MY ARM HURTS!
I MUST HAVE CUT IT! WHAT
TIME IS IT?

IT'S
MORNING!
YOU MUST
HAVE BEEN

UNCONSCIOUS
FOR HOURS! ARE
YOU SURE YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT?

I'M FINE! I...
WHAT ARE YOU
STARING AT?
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH YOU? YOU
ACT AS THOUGH
YOU'D SEEN A
GHOST!

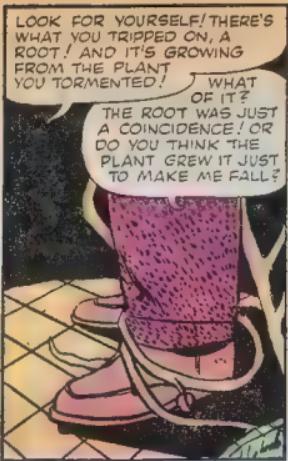
NOT A GHOST,
MARK, BUT
MAYBE SOME-
THING JUST
AS BAD!

LOOK FOR YOURSELF! THERE'S
WHAT YOU TRIPPED ON, A
ROOT! AND IT'S GROWING
FROM THE PLANT
YOU TORMENTED!

WHAT
OF IT?
THE ROOT WAS JUST
A COINCIDENCE! OR
DO YOU THINK THE
PLANT GREW IT JUST
TO MAKE ME FALL?

NEXT YOU'LL BE TELLING ME
THE PLANT WANTED
REVENGE!

MAYBE IT
DID! MARK, THE
ROOT MAY HAVE
BEEN A COINCIDENCE!
BUT NOT THE CUT
ON YOUR ARM!



YOUR ARM LAY RIGHT UNDER THIS HOLLOW
TENDRIL FOR HOURS! MARK, THE PLANT CAN
THINK! IT CAN HATE! AND IT HAS TAKEN ITS
REVENGE!

REVENGE? I'M NOT HURT, AM I?
I HAVE A HEADACHE AND A CUT
ON MY ARM, THAT'S ALL! IS THAT
YOUR IDEA OF
REVENGE?

CLAY'S EYES WERE WIDE WITH ALARM! BUT... IT
WAS SUCH STUPID NONSENSE! ADAMS SHOOK
HIS HEAD IN DISGUST, BUT THAT DID NOT WIPE THE
DISMAY FROM CLAY'S EYES...



WHAT HAS MY SMOCK
GOT TO DO WITH
HOLLOW TENDRILS
AND REVENGE?

EVERYTHING! LOOK
AT YOUR RIGHT ARM!
THE PLANT HAS MIXED
ITS LIFE FORCE,
CHLOROPHYLL,
WITH YOURS!

I'D SAY YOU'VE BEEN MARKED
FOR LIFE, MARK! WOULD YOU
CALL THAT ARM JUST
"COINCIDENCE," TOO?



HUGE SALE!

12 CHILDREN'S DRESSES
FOR ONLY

\$ 345

WHY PAY MORE!
children grow out of their clothes
faster than they can wear them
out! Now—on a money back
guarantee—you can supply your
child with a complete wardrobe
for the PRICE OF ONE DRESS!

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FOR THE
PRICE
OF 1

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COTTON & RAYON—ALL IN READY
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500 TOYS

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Hours and Hours of FUN!

Here's everything a boy and girl ever dreamed of—Tractors, Cars, Trucks, Space Ships, Circus Animals, Farm Animals, Railroad Engines and Cars, Soldiers, Cowboys and Indians, Tanks, Bazookas, Cruisers, Tanks, Artillery, Farm Equipment, Heavy Road Equipment, Jets, Bombers, Rockets, etc.

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True, TWO DIMENSIONAL reproductions of expensive toys. Each toy stands up on its own base. Up to 1½" high and 2¾" long. Limit—5 sets to a customer.

LIMIT - 5 Sets to A Customer

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Address_____

City_____

Zone_____State_____

on a side road, to eat. While he was eating, he noticed smoke coming from some place not too far away. Leaving the car, Frank headed in the direction of the smoke. He found a narrow path and followed it through the woodland to a clearing. Crouching behind a tree, he looked out upon a strange sight. There were about half a dozen tents set up and a few people wandering about. There were also three odd-looking objects about the size of airplanes, that looked much like the description of flying saucers.

As Frank knelt there staring, he became aware of other people near him. Swinging around, he saw two men.

"What do you want here?" asked one of the men. The nasal quality of his speech was final confirmation for Frank that here was the answer to the mystery.

"I saw the smoke from a distance. Sorry, if I'm intruding. This is a strange place for a summer colony," Frank continued in a friendly tone. "And what are those saucer-like objects?"

The two men exchanged words in a language foreign to Frank and then ordered him to come with them into the camp. This was what Frank wanted . . . to see up close what was going on . . . to meet the leader.

They stopped in front of one of the tents and Frank was told to wait inside. Presently another man appeared, apparently the leader of the group.

"Your name, please," he asked. Frank told him.

"And your business here?"

"Just looking," Frank answered. "I'm up near here on vacation. I was driving around and saw the smoke, so I came over."

"I see. Well, Mr. Turner, you probably want to know what is going on here. I intend to tell you. However, I cannot per-

mit you to leave, for you would no doubt jeopardize our mission. You will be safe. But you will have to live with us."

The tale that the leader unfolded was a fantastic one. The three flying saucers and the people in this camp were from Mars. A ship had been sent out to earth to see what it was like, a month or so before. The ship had landed at this spot and the occupants had made their way into town. There they had come across soap and green vegetables, two products scarce on Mars. They bought samples of these products and returned to their ship and to Mars. Immediately the Martian govern-

ment did not think the people would understand our peaceful intentions. Maybe we are wrong, but we do not wish to take the chance."

"You say you need this soap because you have an overabundance of oil on Mars . . . that almost every one has oil in their backyards, and that you do not have the ingredients to make this soap. Also you need vegetables . . . frozen so they will keep. Earth needs oil. The two planets could set up a trading system, beneficial to both. Let me leave here. I will go to the United Nations and see what I can do."

"Ah, it would be wonderful. But what guarantee have we that you will not try to drive us off here, that you will do as you say?"

"You have only my word. I will take one of your citizens as a representative."

The leader thought . . . and finally gave his permission for Frank to leave with a Martian.

Using his newspaper contacts, Frank had little trouble in making an appointment with the Secretary-general of the UN. Kal-tor, the Martian representative, was with him. It took time and first-hand visits, but a few weeks later, the Secretary-general was convinced. He presented the astonishing facts before the United Nations and the world. Immediately, disputes started among the nations for trading rights, but these were soon solved by the formation of the United Nations Universal Trade Organization, dedicated to sell to and purchase from Mars for the benefit of all the member nations.

Back in his office, Frank Turner's thoughts returned to the day when the first report of unusual buying had come into his office. Little had he dreamed at that time, that all this could happen tomorrow!



ment decided to send other ships to Earth to buy up quantities of these goods. They had no desire to cause trouble . . . they simply wanted to buy what they needed. From his description of life on Mars, it was not too different from that on Earth, though many of the natural resources, and therefore the manufactured products, were different.

"But why didn't you go to the government or to the companies selling these goods and contract to buy in quantity rather than little by little in towns?" Frank asked.

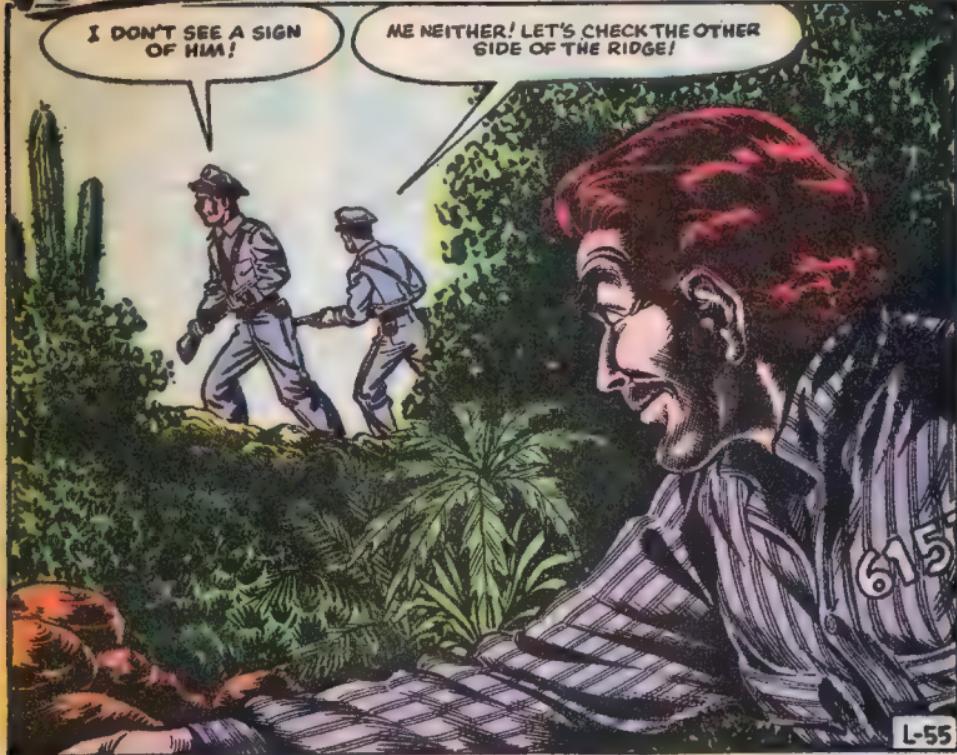
"Yes, we thought of that," the leader continued. "But from what we have seen of Earth, we

HIS ESCAPE HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL AN' THUS FAR HE HAD ELUDED HIS WOULD-BE CAPTORS, BUT
WOULD HIS LUCK HOLD OUT AGAINST...

Tachzillo the TERRIBLE

I DON'T SEE A SIGN OF HIM!

ME NEITHER! LET'S CHECK THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIDGE!



L-55

HE WAS A "LIFER," AND THIS WAS THE MOMENT
HE HAD LIVED FOR... HE WAS FREE AT LAST!

THE BORDER IS CLOSE BY... I'LL WAIT
FOR DARKNESS, THEN OVER I GO!



HIS LUCK HELD... LATE THAT NIGHT, HE REACHED
HIS OBJECTIVE AND MOVED ON...



BY THE MORNING OF THE SECOND DAY, HE WAS DEEP IN THE INTERIOR...

EVERY MILE I PUT BETWEEN ME AND THE STATES, THE BETTER I FEEL!

IT'S ALL A MATTER OF TIME! ONCE THE HEAT'S OFF, I CAN MAKE PERMANENT PLANS...

BUT SUDDENLY A PUNGENT ODOR WAFTED HIS WAY...

SMOKE! SOMEBODY'S DOIN' SOME COOKIN' AN' IT'S SURE SMELLS GOOD!

CAUTIOUSLY, HE CREST FORWARD... AND THEN, AROUND THE BEND OF THE STREAM...

IT'S A NATIVE VILLAGE! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!

HE STEPPED FORWARD, MENACINGLY, TAKING THEM BY COMPLETE SURPRISE...

NO ONE GETS FUNNY, AND NO ONE GETS HURT! JUST EVERYBODY DO LIKE I SAY!

YOU! GET ME FOOD AN' SOMETHIN' TO DRINK! SAVVY?

SI, SEÑOR!
I BRING PRONTO!

AND WHEN HE HAD GORGED HIMSELF WITH FOOD AND DRINK...

JUST KEEP ONE THING IN MIND... I'M BIG BOSS HERE! I ORDER, YOU OBEY!

THUS THE CONVICT SETTLED DOWN, WAITING IT OUT IN THE TINY VILLAGE... BUT ONE DAY, ABOUT TWO WEEKS LATER...

THEY COME, SEÑOR! THEY HAVE DOGS AND GUNS!

IT'S THE POLICE! THEY'VE PICKED UP MY TRAIL!

FOR THE LAST TIME, WHICH ONE OF YOU HOMBRES IS GONNA GUIDE ME THROUGH THE SWAMPS?

NO ONE, SEÑOR! IT IS FORBIDDEN!



THE SWAMP IS RULED BY **TACHIZZO THE TERRIBLE**, A FIERY SPIRIT OF MANY SHAPES AND FORMS, AND ONE WE DARE NOT ANGER!

WHAT?

I AIN'T GOT ALL DAY, AN' I'M THROUGH FOOLIN' AROUND! I WANT A GUIDE, AN' IF I DON'T GET HIM FAST, THERE'S GONNA BE SERIOUS TROUBLE!

SEÑOR... PLEASE...

LET HIM ALONE, SEÑOR! I WILL BE YOUR GUIDE!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! LET'S GET GOIN'!



NO TIME WAS LOST! WITHIN THE HOUR, THEY WERE CROSSING THE TREACHEROUS SWAMP...

I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE IT ON MY OWN! I'D NEVER GET THROUGH THESE QUICKSANDS WITHOUT THE KID!



A SHORT WHILE LATER...

IT'S AN ISLAND, RISING RIGHT OUT OF THE QUICKSANDS! WHAT A BREAK! THEY'D NEVER DARE TRACK ME OUT HERE!

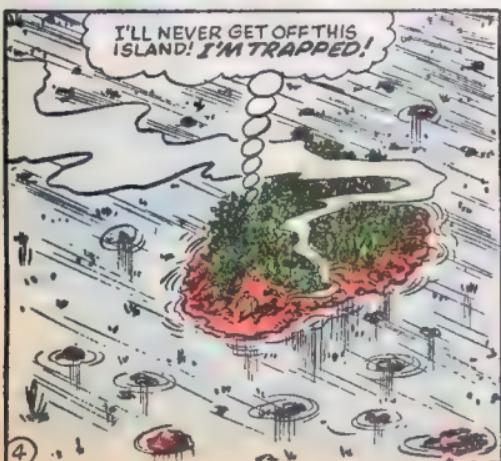




PANIC MADE HIM DESPERATE, BUT EVEN AS HE FIRED, HIS BRAIN REELED UNDER THE ASTOUNDING SIGHT!



AND OVER THE SPOT WHERE THE BOY VANISHED, A STRANGE CLOUD MUSHROOMED SKYWARD, AND WITHIN THE CLOUD...



A NEW SCIENTIFIC TOY!

NUTTY PUTTY



BOUNCE IT...



IT'S
GREAT
FUN!

HIT IT...



MOLD IT...



STRETCH IT...

Order now.
—Return this
rush coupon
with your
\$1.00

ONLY \$1.00

NUTTY PUTTY...
real crazy!!! A liquid solid!
Amazing and fun! Roll into a
ball, it bounces! Hit with ham-
mer—it shatters! Pull it slowly
—it stretches! Press it on a comic
book and it steals a perfect im-
pression in color...Leave it alone
and it sinks into a tired little pud-
dle. Comes in a leakproof plastic
egg...You'll relax with this one
—and really have a ball.
It is made of the wonder ma-
terial your parents have read
about in Life, Time, and other
magazines. Truly a great new
toy. This is the real THING.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

LUCKY PRODUCTS DEPT. NMC 9

Carle Place, L. I., N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Here is my dollar. Please rush Nutty Putty. If I am not
completely satisfied, I can return merchandise for full re-
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Name

Address

City State

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84 SECRET CARD TRICKS

With Chapter On Sleight Of Hand
This book contains all their best tricks and
deceptions with cards, includes the latest
tricks of all the top magicians. Each is espe-
cially worked so that it lends itself to home
amusement and amazement! All simply ex-
plained. Chapter on sleight of hand is useful
in detecting tricks while playing.

012

35c



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Simply set off the magic powder, and poof! disappear into a cloud of smoke. Ideal for all magical effects and disappearing acts. Completely harmless. Enough powder for hundreds of uses.

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617—\$1.98

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A great
sight



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Place "King Tut" in his coffin and watch him rise down. But, when someone else tries to restrain him, mysterious-
ly rises from his grave.
It's loads of fun, and
724—\$0.50 mysterious.

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HOT PEPPER GUM

Looks like real gum, but when they taste it, WOW! Burns their mouth, but only like pepper. Package of five sticks.

No. 021—Only

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20c

SURE WIN COINS

You get two coins. One looks exact, but it has two heads. Do tricks, win friendly bets.

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YOU, TOO, CAN BE TOUGH
Master Jiu-jitsu and you'll win any fight. This book gives you all the grips, blocks, etc., which are so effective in counter-attacking a bully or hold up. You don't need big muscles or weight; know-how makes you the sure winner. We also send you FREE book on how to perform strong-man stunts, tear a telephone book in half, etc.

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\$1.00

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SILVER SKULL RING

Heavy Mexican silver ring with the raised face of skull ring with liquid ruby eyes. Feels good and looks really impressive. Adds heft.

564

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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Dept. 138-N

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ADDRESS

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"I'm in our necks in Radio-Television work. Four others in my neighborhood are. Am happy with my work." —Sister Parsons, Bradford, Pennsylvania.

"Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I.!" —Curtis Smith, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

"Am with WCGO, N.R.I. course can't be beat. No trouble passing 1st class Radio-phone license exam." —Jesse W. Parker, Meridian, Mississippi.

"By the time I graduated I had paid for my course, a car and testing equipment! Can service toughest jobs." —E. J. Streitberger, New Boston, Ohio.

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2 FREE BOOKS
SHOW HOW
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Television Making Good Jobs, Prosperity—Even without Television, Radio is bigger than ever. 115 million home and auto Radios to be serviced. Over 3000 Radio broadcasting stations use operators, technicians, engineers. Government, Aviation, Police, Ship, Micro-wave Relay, Two-Way Radio Communications for buses, taxis, trucks, etc., are important and growing fields. Television is moving ahead fast.



About 200 Television-stations are now on the air. Hundreds of others being built. Good TV jobs opening up for Technicians, Operators, etc.

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VETS write in date
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